

road to the bluff-tops, also are composed of this material, capped by black topsoil that supports the present foliage.

Logging

Pere Marquette Lodge and Conference Center originally

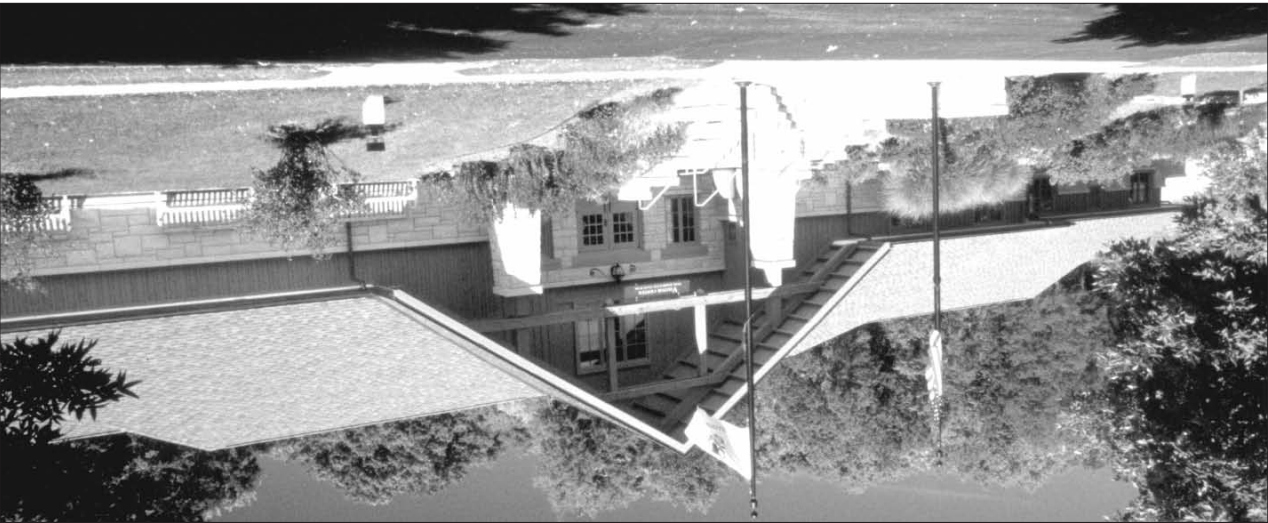
built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps, has been expanded and updated in recent years. Today, the native stone and rustic timbers of the original lodge blend with the new to provide first-class accommodations in a historical setting. The mammoth stone fireplace in the lobby soars to a roof height of 50 feet and is said to weigh 700 tons.

There are 50 spacious guest rooms and 22 stone guest cabin rooms. Among the facilities available are a cocktail lounge, gift shop, indoor swimming pool, whirlpool, saunas, game room and tennis court.

Pere Marquette Lodge provides elegant dining and serves a Sunday brunch that draws people from Missouri as well as Illinois. The dining room seats 150 people and offers a choice of family-style dining or selections from the menu.

The 2,900-square-foot conference center has banquet facilities to accommodate 300 and a comprehensive selection of audio/visual equipment. The center breaks into four separate meeting rooms.

For more information or reservations, write Pere Marquette Lodge and Conference Center, Route 100, P. O. Box 429, Grafton, Ill 62037, or call (618) 786-2331, fax (618) 786-3498.



Camping

For those who prefer a more rustic experience, Pere Marquette offers a wide range of camping opportunities:

- The Class A campground has 80 sites, two of which are handicapped accessible. Sites have electrical hookups, with a sanitary dump station, drinking water and a shower building available on the grounds. Sites 2-30 are available for reservation from May through October. The nearby Class B tent camping area also has access to the shower building.



- Within the Class A campground, the park offers two Rent-A-Camp sites. Each site features a two-room **Rent-A-Camp cabin**.
- Popular among scout groups is the Youth Tent Camp Area, also known as Duncan Hill. This separate campground offers a picnic shelter and tables, pit-type toilets and drinking water.
- For large organized groups, Pere Marquette operates three **Organized Group Camps**. Camp Potawatomi accommodates 68 campers; Camp Piasa and Camp Ouatoga will each accommodate 145. All three camps feature fully-equipped kitchens and dining rooms, lighted sleeping cabins with cots and mattresses, and restroom facilities with warm showers and flush toilets. Camps Piasa and Ouatoga also feature swimming pools.

Reservations for all types of camping are accepted beginning on the first working day in January.

But the natural splendor of this region and its rich history of animal and human habitation goes back eons. Fossils found in the strata, stripped bare by thousands of years of river current, reveal its history. At the foot of McAdams Peak, twin springs flow from Ordovician-Silurian rocks deposited 350 million years ago. All the ridges are mantled with loess (pronounced "less"), a windblown dust laid down a million years ago during the last Great Ice Age. The vertical banks of yellow clay, seen along the

the region became a territory of the fledgling United States and and Indian War of the 1760s. In 1763, the British took over until gic Illinois River, who really controlled the area until the French Americans, with their flourishing fur trade centered on the strate- Valley as part of the Louisiana Purchase, it was the Native Although the French took legal possession of the Mississippi entrance commemorates their historic landing here.

the State of Illinois. Today, a large stone cross east of the park Illinois River, generating the first written accounts of what is now Mexico. On their return voyage, they traveled by way of the then a state in 1818.

The park has been the subject of numerous archaeological studies, including the present location of Pere Marquette Lodge. Prior to its construction in the 1930s and again during the lodge expansion in 1985, archaeologists recovered the remains of a prehistoric habitation site. Although there are no documented Native American sites in the park, it is known that the area was occupied by the Illini confederacy when Marquette and Joliet traveled the area in 1673.



One of Illinois' largest state parks, this 8,000-acre preserva- tion area was named for Father Jacques Marquette, a French missionary who was among the first group of Europeans to reach the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers in 1673. Under the leadership of Louis Joliet, these European explorers traveled down the Mississippi as far as the Arkansas River, where they turned around after learning from the Native Americans that the Mississippi River emptied into the Gulf of

ing, camping, fishing, boating and hiking. Pere Marquette's Visitor Center, opened in October of 1997, welcomes you with a three-dimensional map of the park, a 270-gallon aquarium, and a wealth of other displays and exhibits concerning the Illinois River, wildlife habitat, local history and geology. Contact the Visitor Center at 618-786-3323 or visit our website at <http://dnr.state.il.us> for further information on any of our facilities or programs.

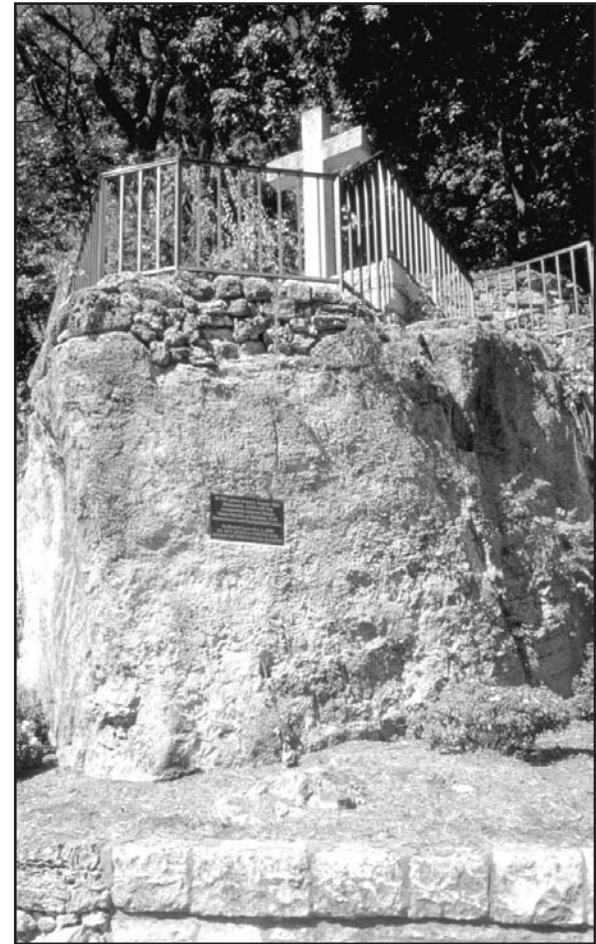
A nature-lover's paradise, Pere Marquette State Park is famous for the exceptional beauty of its fall colors and for its bald eagles during the winter. In addition to enjoying the spectacular view of the Illinois and Mississippi rivers from several points atop the bluffs, visitors can take advantage of a variety of year-round recreational opportunities, including horseback riding, camping, fishing, boating and hiking.

Pere Marquette State Park

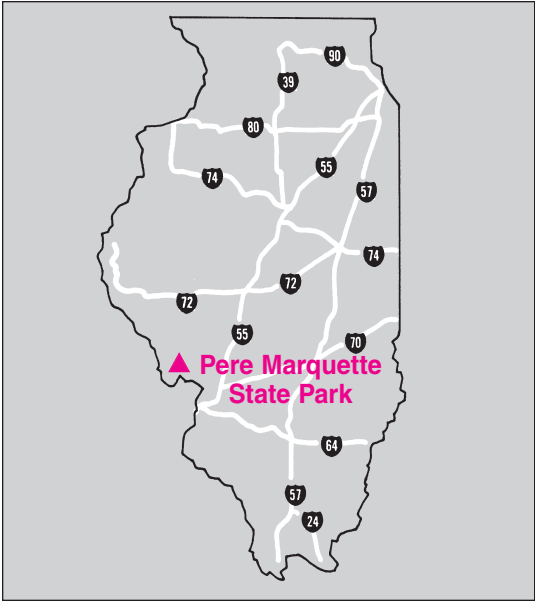
State of Illinois
Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Pere Marquette

STATE PARK



THE MARQUETTE MONUMENT



Pere Marquette State Park
Route 100, P.O. Box 158
Grafton, IL 62037, 618-786-3323

- While groups of 25 or more are welcome and encouraged to use the park's facilities, they are required to register in advance with the site office to avoid crowding or scheduling conflicts.
- At least one responsible adult must accompany each group of 15 minors.
- Pets must be kept on leashes at all times.
- Actions by nature can result in closed roads and other facilities. We hope you enjoy your stay. Remember, take only memories, leave only footprints.
- For more information on state parks, write to the Department of Natural Resources, Clearinghouse, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271, call (217) 782-6302 or visit our website at www.dnr.state.il.us.
- For more information on tourism in Illinois, call the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Bureau of Tourism at 1-800-2CONNECT.
- Hearing-impaired individuals may call the Department of Natural Resources' TTY number, (217) 782-9175, or use the Ameritech Relay Number, 1-800-526-0844.

Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other nonmerit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding source's civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271; (217) 785-0067; TTY (217) 782-9175.

Picnicking

Plenty of picnic areas can be found throughout the park, with tables, grills and trash containers provided. Three picnic shelters may be reserved.

Boating & Fishing

A wide variety of fish, such as bluegill, carp, catfish, crappie, drum, largemouth bass and white bass, attracts anglers to the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. Launching ramps and ample parking are provided, and courtesy docks are available when weather conditions and river levels permit. Future plans include a full-service marina.



Hiking

Approximately 12 miles of marked trails provide scenic hiking opportunities for beginners and experienced hikers alike. Lush forests, towering bluffs and an abundance of wildlife are the perfect backdrops for an outing. Trail maps are available at the Visitor Center.

Interpretative Programs

A full-time site interpreter and seasonal interpreters are available to provide educational programs to groups of all ages. Hikes, recreational activities and other interpretive events are

scheduled on a regular basis, particularly in the fall. Eagle tours are offered from late December to late February.

Horseback Riding

Pere Marquette Riding Stable is open for trail rides from April through October, weather permitting, and by reservation only from November through March. For more information or to make a reservation, call (618) 786-2156.

For those who have a horse of their own, the park offers about 20 miles of equestrian trails and a parking area for trailers.

Bike Trail

The Sam Vadalabene Bike Trail runs from Pere Marquette State Park to the City of Alton, approximately 20 miles. The entire trail is paved.

Bird Watching

About 230 species of birds have been identified within, at the boundaries of, or flying over Pere Marquette State Park. A checklist has been prepared by local birders, in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, and is available at the Visitor Center. Popular locations for bird watching are Stump Lake, in the river bottoms, McAdams Peak and other overlooks along the scenic drive through the park.

Hunting Programs

The 2,000-acre public hunting area has good stands of mature oak and hickory timber, which provide excellent habitat for squirrel, deer and turkey. These game species may be hunted in this area in accordance with statewide seasons and regulations, with the exception of squirrel season, which begins the day after Labor Day in the park. All hunters using the public area must sign in at the check station.

Archery deer hunting is offered on an additional 3,000 acres in the three organized group camp areas by special permit. Three one-week seasons are offered, beginning on the Monday after the last Sunday in October (when the group camps close for the season). By random drawing, five hunters are selected for



each season in each area. The drawing for this hunt is held on the first working day of April each year. Applications are available in February.

Spring Turkey Hunting also is available in the organized group camp areas by special permit. To be considered for this hunt, hunters must use the statewide Firearm Turkey Permit application, and apply for Pere Marquette Group Camp Area.

Exotic Species

Plants and animals not native to Illinois are exotic species. Most of them are harmless to our state; however, some can be very invasive to native plant communities and can overwhelm or wipe out native species. Prevention and control of exotic, invasive species requires tremendous cooperation between managers and all users of parks, natural areas, and privately owned land.

To learn more about exotic and invasive species and how you can help prevent their spread, visit the IDNR Exotic Species Website at: (http://www.dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/ExoticSpecies/exotic_spintro.htm).

